



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476
Phone: 781-316-3000

webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us

Historical Commission Minutes 08-05-2003

Arlington Historical Commission
Minutes of the Meeting of Tuesday,
5 August 2003
Whittemore-Robbins House, 7:30 PM

Call to Order: Mr. Botterio presiding, with Commissioners Pamela Meister, JoAnn Robinson, Jane Becker, and Michael Ruderman; also, Richard Duffy.

Minutes of 3 June and of 1 July 2003 approved, with the re-write of section 6(b) of the July minutes:
 "Symmes Hospital redevelopment-Mr. Botterio was asked if the Commission's decision to place the whole of the Symmes complex on the Inventory could be rescinded. The Massachusetts Historical Commission already accepted our documentation in May. Ms. Robinson and Mr. Stange will attend the next meeting of the Redevelopment Board and make our position clear."

Communications Received: Mr. Duffy related his difficulties in clarifying for the correspondents of the Boston Globe's Northwest Edition the differences between the Historical Commission and the Arlington Historical Society.

Mr. Botterio referred to Ms. Robinson the request for comment from the Mass. Highway Department in contemplation of their reconstruction of Summer Street from Hospital Road westerly, originally opened as a relief for traffic on Massachusetts Avenue *circa* 1916.

The commission has a balance on hand of \$7,726.62 with the annual appropriation of \$2400 to be received. As a possibility for putting these funds to work, Mr. Ruderman will inquire as to the costs of having the Commission's prior publications reissued.

Town Day 2003 is September 13; assignments will be made at the next meeting.

Acting Town Manager Nancy Galkowski has asked if Mr. Patrick Guthrie and Ms. Meister wish to re-appointed at the end of the current terms. Mr. Guthrie has previously indicated that he wishes to step down.

Mr. Botterio acknowledged receipt of a copy of Mr. John Worden's letter (on behalf of the Arlington Historical Society) to Donham and Sweeney, Architects regarding their latest designs for the 743 Massachusetts Avenue (the former Times Oldsmobile/Osco site). The development team has their next meeting with the Redevelopment Board scheduled for August 25.

Markers have been requested by the owners of the houses at 30 Brantwood and 30-32 Addison, both of which have recently been before this commission.

Related Activities of other Town Boards (Historic Districts, Preservation Fund, Dallin Museum, others)

Projects proceeding under Hearings and Approvals:

5-11 Water Street (Rowe, trustee. of Waterpower Trust) 7/02: Botterio-completed, and leaves the Agenda.

30-32 Addison Street (Pitts) 3/03: Ruderman-no deck contemplated, and bracketing ends with streetscape windows.

Continuing Projects:

Whittemore-Robbins House (and outbuildings): Mr Botterio has hired a repair crew for gutters and paint touch-ups, to be paid for from function receipts.

Arlington Civic Block Garden: Ms. Robinson will try to rectify the situation that has last winter's sand and salt still covering the front brick walks.

Inventory Expansion and Review: Ms. Becker has been meeting with a group of fellow residents on Academy Street who wish to create a new historic district. Of the 40 homes in the contemplated district, 16 have already been inventoried. Some of the remaining 24 would merit detailed treatment (such as would be required for submission to the Mass. Historical Commission), while others could be included in the neighborhood survey with shorter descriptions. And, some of the 24 would be non-contributing, or "in-fill", properties and require little documentation if any. Still, the question of apportioning the costs (among individuals, this Commission, the Historic Districts Commission) of the describing, documenting, and compiling of forms needs to be resolved.

Symmes Hospital redevelopment: Ms. Robinson wrote to the Redevelopment Board, explicating our position (*copy to be inserted here*).

Next meeting confirmed for September 2, and this meeting closed at 9:00 pm.

For the Arlington Historical Commission,
A. Michael Ruderman